

C By the Quene



He Quenes Maiestie beyng infourmed, that in some partes of her Realme, sundrye either ignorant or malicious people do spreade rumours abrode, that the base Testons of four pence halspeny should not be currant after thende of January next: Hath thought meete (lesse the lyke false and sedicious rumours myght be further spred) to do all maner her subiectes to vnderstande, that it hath ben alwayes and so is meant by her Maiestie, that all maner the base monyes, whiche hath ben of late decreeed by Proclamacion, sauyng the Testons of twopence farthyng, shoulde continue and be currant styll, and so taken and payde from subiecte to subiecte, at theyr values as they be rated by former Proclamacion, and so to continue vntyll the same maye be by her Maiesties subiectes brought to the mynt at London, and there exchaunged for newe sterlyng monyes, with thallowaunce to the brynger, of thre pence in the pounde. Wherin suche expedition is made, as in a matter of such a moment, possyble hytherto coulde be, and shalbe nowe from day to day much more.

And as for the peeces of two pence farthyng, it is and was meant and declared in the Proclamacion, that they shoulde be taken as currant monye vntyll the last day of January, that daye beyng the ende of four monethes from Michaelmas laste. And yet neverthelesse, because within that tyme it shalbe harde to bryng vp and make exchaunge of the same in the mynt with newe monies: Her Maiestie is well pleased, that whosoeuer shall brynge anye of the same Testons of two pence farthyng after the sayde last day of January to the sayde Mint at London, within the space of thre monethes after, shall haue for the same in newe syluer twopence farthyng: So as her Maiestie meaneth, as much as in her shalbe, to beare herein with the burden of her poore subiectes. And her pleasure is, that this shoulde be notified to all her louyng subiectes: geuyng also straight commaundement, that no maner person do refuse to take in payment any of the sayd base monyes, that is to say: the fourpence halspeny, the thre halspence, the thre farthynges, at the values rated by the former Proclamation, at any tyme hereafter: neither the other base Testons of twopence farthyng at the same rate, vntyll the last day of January. And in anye wyse to cause all persons doryng the contrary, to be severely punyshed as obastinate and sedicious.

And further, her Maiestie chargeth all maner of officers and ministers, diligently to see to the attachment and punyshment of certayne lewde and sedicious persons, that from towne to towne, and Countrey to Countrey, do cary and spreade sedicious and flaundrous tales, importyng to simple people a feare, that Cattell unmarkid shoulde be forfeited: or that all people Chyftened or Maryed, shoulde paye for Christenynges and Maryages certayne summes of monye to her Maiestie, with suche lyke bayne and sedicious follyes, never meant, nor within the compasse of anye meanyng of her Maiestie or her counsayle. The slave wherof, by speedy and seuere punyshment, her Maiestie straiglytly requireth of all maner of Justiciaries, as they wyll or ought to aunswere to the contrary, & from hence forth to geue order, that assone as any such lewde tale is vttered, that the reporters therof may be eyther punyshed with speede, or els produce the aucthours.

Yeven at her hyghnesse Palyce at Westminster, the. xiii. day of December,

God saue the Quene.

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Cum priuilegio Regie Maiestatis.